

**OPINION 2059 (Case 275)*****Camelus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Mammalia, Artiodactyla): *Camelus bactrianus* Linnaeus, 1758 designated as the type species**

**Abstract.** The Commission has designated *Camelus bactrianus* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of the camel genus *Camelus* Linnaeus, 1758, to accord with modern usage. A 1904 designation of *C. dromedarius* Linnaeus, 1758 had never been adopted.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Artiodactyla; CAMELIDAE; *Camelus*; *Camelus bactrianus*; Bactrian camel.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power all previous designations of type species for *Camelus* Linnaeus, 1758 are hereby set aside and *Camelus bactrianus* Linnaeus, 1758 is designated as the type species.
- (2) The name *Camelus* Linnaeus, 1758 (gender: masculine), type species by designation in (1) above *Camelus bactrianus* Linnaeus, 1758, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *bactrianus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Camelus bactrianus* (specific name of the type species of *Camelus* Linnaeus, 1758), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

**History of Case 275**

There has long been confusion as to whether *Camelus bactrianus* Linnaeus, 1758 or *C. dromedarius* Linnaeus, 1758 was the valid type species of *Camelus* Linnaeus, 1758. In order to resolve this situation, N. Erridge (then of the Secretariat, International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature) reviewed the history of the name and prepared an application proposing that the Commission should rule that *C. bactrianus* is the type species and not *C. dromedarius* as had been designated by Palmer (1904), not Hay (1902) as stated in the application. This application was published in BZN 45: 141–142 (June 1988). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals. No comments on this case were received.

**Decision of the Commission**

On 1 March 2003 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 45: 141. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 2003 the votes were as follows: 22 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, one Commissioner (Minelli) voted AGAINST, Alonso-Zarazaga abstained, no vote was received from Böhme.

**Original references**

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*bactrianus*, *Camelus*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 65.  
*Camelus* Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 65.

#### **Additional reference**

Palmer, T.S. 1904. *North American fauna*, 23: 156.